

**ORDER OF SERVICE
ALL AGE EUCHARIST
THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST
JANUARY 10TH 2021**

Today our theme is:
A NEW START

We are welcomed to the service by Michael

We sing our praises to God - This little light of mine

PREPARATION

Revd Liz welcomes us to the service and introduces the theme.

We Greet Each Other in the Lord's Name

In the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit
Amen

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

We Confess Our Sins – the bad things we do and the good things we fail to do – Revd Adelaide leads the confession (with thanks to Diddy Disciples)

The Good News is God loves to give us a new start
Let's have a time of saying sorry to God now.

Sometimes we do things we wish we hadn't done
Sometimes it can feel like we've done it all wrong
We wish we could have a new start

Let's put our hands on our head (place hands on head).....

I wonder if there's anything we've thought this week
That we wish we hadn't thought.....

Let's put our hands by our mouths (place hands by mouth).....

I wonder if there's anything we've said this week
That we wish we hadn't said.....

Let's cross our hands on our chest (cross hands on chest).....

I wonder if there's anything we've done this week
That we wish we hadn't done.....

The good news is that God loves giving new starts

God can wash us not just outside.....
But inside too

Thank you, God

We receive God's forgiveness

May the God of love bring *us* back to himself,
forgive *us our* sins, and assure *us* of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

We keep a Time of Silence and Pray the Special Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

The Gloria

'**There's nothing I love better than....**' - Laura, Rick, Alison, Joshua, Phillip,
Sheila, Harriet, Ann, Joseph, Austin and Bennett reflect on what they're missing.....

We Sing Our Praises to God – We will Meet

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

We Proclaim the Word of God – Rosie, Kenya, Patricia, Michael, Ally, Kayden,
Mary and Christy act out the gospel story. Thanks to the Bible Reading Fellowship
for the dramatic reading.

NARRATOR

Today's story is a noisy story...
Today's story is a mysterious story...
Today's story is an amazing story...
Today's story involves lots of water...

Sound of moving water

NARRATOR

Today's story also involves a beautiful bird, hovering and fluttering: a dove flying down from high in the sky...

Today's story also involves a voice - but not just any voice: the voice of God - the voice that can change everything...

Are you ready for today's story? For the noise? For the mystery? And for the amazing voice?.....

In the beginning of this story there was a baby named Jesus - and Mary was chosen to be his mother. Mary was chosen to become the mother of God! Did you hear that? Mary was chosen to become the mother of God!

Mary rocked the baby, kept the baby warm and gave the baby everything he needed to grow. And the baby grew.

The baby became a child... the child became a teenager... and the teenager became a man.

When Jesus was about 30 years old, he went down to the waterside where there were lots of people.....

Sound of running water and a splash!

Including his cousin John, who was a noisy, wild man. Listen to him shouting: -

JOHN

Change your ways. Get ready for the king!
Change your ways. Get ready for the king!

CROWD

Change your ways. Get ready for the king!

NARRATOR

A lot of people were going into the river to be splashed with water as a sign of making a new beginning. It was a way of saying they wanted to change their ways and get ready for the king. They were being 'baptised' in the river by John. And there was a lot of splashing...

Sound of running water and splashes

NARRATOR

Then Jesus went up to his cousin John and said: 'Splash me with water too. Baptise me.'

John looked at Jesus and said: 'I can't baptise you. You ARE the new start. You are ALREADY clean. You are the one come from God, sent to rescue everyone and put everything right. YOU should be baptising ME.'

But Jesus said, 'No', ' Baptise me.'

And so John took Jesus into the water to be baptised. And it was the biggest splash ever!

Sound of SPLASHING

The splash was so big that it was as if the splash wasn't just for Jesus but for everybody in the whole wide world.

When the noise of the splash had died down, everyone could see a bird fluttering down from heaven - a dove hovering above Jesus.

Then everyone heard a voice that said:

GOD

'This is my son. I love him and I am pleased with him.'

NARRATOR

And the crowds went WOW!

And John went

JOHN

Wow!

NARRATOR

And we all went

CROWD

'WOW'

We Respond to the Word of God

Revd Liz preaches the sermon, which includes an interview with Dannii about the baptism of her family

We Say What We Believe – Michael leads the affirmation of faith

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

We pray for the Church and The World – Amelia and Arek pray on our behalf

ending with,

**God of mercy,
hear our prayer and make us one in heart and mind to serve you
with joy forever. Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

We Share The Peace

If our life in Christ means anything, if
love can persuade at all
or the spirit that we have in common,
or any tenderness and sympathy,
then be united in your conviction
and united in your love,
With a common purpose
and a common mind.
The peace of the Lord be always with
you

All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We Sing Our Praises to God – Source and Fount of all Creation

We Prepare The Table

We Pray The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Question Why is it right to give thanks and praise?

Answer Listen, and we will hear.

Lord of all life, you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.

You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.

He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

Question Why do we share this bread and wine?

Answer Listen, and we will hear.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.

He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,

gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup

we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.

As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit,

and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Question How do we follow Jesus Christ?

Answer Listen, and we will hear.

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with Luke and Richard, Thomas and all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. **Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come
Your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread
And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and forever Amen.**

We break the bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

President Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats of this bread will live for
ever.

All **Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

Invitation to Communion

The church of God is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ. By making our communion spiritually, we join with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us 'I am the bread of life'.

President God's Holy Gifts for God's holy
people
**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ
is Lord, to the glory of God the
Father. Amen**

The president receives communion.

Communion Music – Listen sweet dove – as this plays, look out for images of doves sent in by members of the congregations

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

NOTICES

THE DISMISSAL

We go out with God's blessing

May God the Holy Spirit,
who came upon the beloved Son
at his baptism in the river Jordan,
pour out his gifts on you
who have come to the waters of new birth.
And the blessing ...

Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

We Sing Our Praises to God – We will Go

We go out to join in with what God's doing